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HAIR CLIPPING DEVICE

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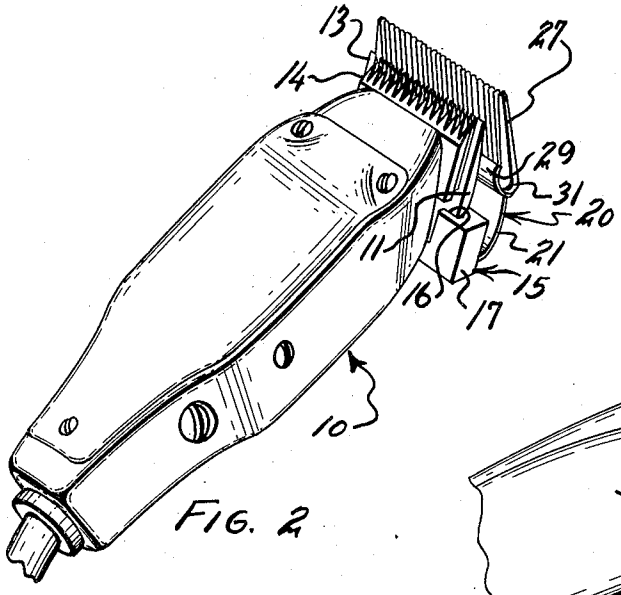

FIG. 2

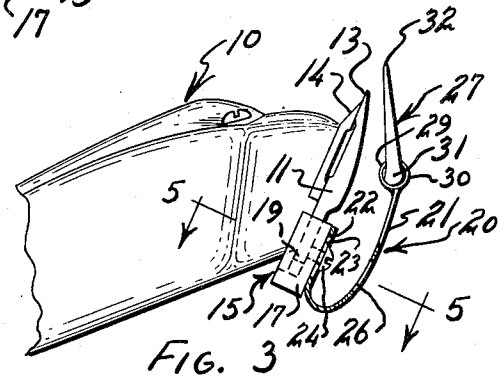

FIG. 3

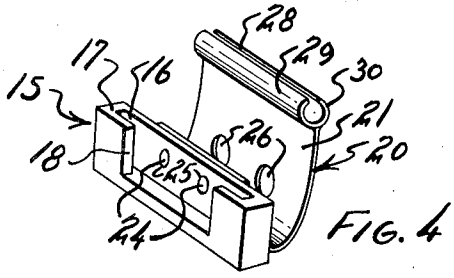

FIG. 4

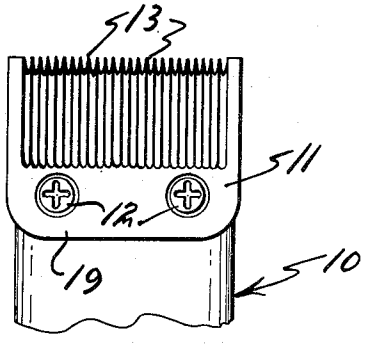

FIG. 1

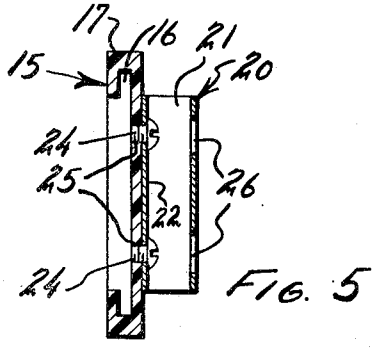

FIG. 5

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HAIR CLIPPING DEVICE

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1 Claim. (Cl. 30—200)

This invention relates to a hair clipping device and more particularly to an attachment for conventional hair clippers.

The conventional hair clipper is provided with a body portion which constitutes a hand grip and also may house mechanism to power the clipping elements. The lower portion of the clipper terminates in a heel plate having a forwardly extending clipper-toothed edge which provides the shearing action during oscillatory movement thereof. The conventional clipper may have a flat heel plate or be slightly contoured so that the teeth may be angulated into close contact with the skin or may be raised slightly from the skin when clipping hair short. The conventional hair clipper is also commonly used in conjunction with a comb. However, the manipulation of the comb and clippers requires a high degree of skill since the operator's hands must work independently to achieve the desired result. The comb is used to straighten and pull the hair outwardly from the skin while the clipper is employed in tapering angulation to effect a smooth and continuous result.

To the best of our knowledge, no hair clipper has been provided with means which will automatically achieve a combing and tapering effect when the clippers are naturally moved and angulated in one-handed operation. We are aware of certain rigid combing attachments which can be secured forwardly of the oscillating teeth on the conventional clippers, but such teeth have no function other than combing the hair in advance of the clipper teeth. No tapering or provision for smooth and even cutting is achieved by the forwardly extending comb members which are not automatically adjustable with reference to the cutting teeth during use.

It is a general object of this invention to overcome the above noted prior difficulties and to provide a hair clipping device which will easily and efficiently cut a smooth taper without the application of special skill.

More specifically, it is an object of the invention to provide an attachment which will permit a proper rocking motion while, at the same time, cooperatively providing an outwardly extending hair taper through resilient means.

Still more specifically, it is an object of the invention to provide a clipper attachment which will comb the hair and hold it in position to be cut in advance of the clipper teeth while providing a rocking and spacing of the teeth from the skin of the user and, further, automatically accomplishing a shift in angulation of the clipper teeth as the cut is effected.

These and other objects and advantages of our invention will be more apparent from the following description, made in connection with the accompanying drawings, wherein like reference characters refer to the same parts throughout the several views and in which:

Fig. 1 is an enlarged fragmentary view of the bottom portion of a conventional clipper showing the heel plate and fixed teeth thereof in secured position;

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a conventional clipper

to which our attachment has been secured, unnecessary portions of the device being cut away;

Fig. 3 is a side view of a lower fragment of the clipper shown in Fig. 2, hidden portions being indicated in dotted line;

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the supporting and fastening element with the spring plate attached thereto; and

Fig. 5 is a cross sectional view of the attachment device in mounted position taken on the line 5—5 of Fig. 3.

With continued reference to the drawing, we contemplate employing a conventional clipper **10** having the ordinary heel plate **11** which is secured to the body of clipper **10** by such means as screws **12**. The heel plate **11** terminates forwardly in fixed teeth **13** over which oscillating teeth **14** are positioned in shearing contact, as shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 3. The relatively oscillable teeth **13** and **14** generally are tapered adjacent their ends so as to permit clipping of hair close to the skin. Although the conventional clipper **10** in the instant case is an electrically operated device, it is understood that our invention is equally applicable to manually operated hair clippers.

Referring now to Fig. 4, our invention contemplates a supporting and fastening element **15** which may be in block form and having a longitudinal groove or opening **16** formed therethrough and communicating with an edge **17**. A recessed area defined by the cut edge **18** permits the supporting and fastening element **15** to be inserted upon the rear margin **19** of heel plate **11**. The slot or opening **16** provides frictional clamping engagement with the margin **19** and may be varied to suit the individual dimensions and characteristics of conventional hair clippers **10**.

A resilient skin-contacting plate **20** is attached to the supporting and fastening element **15** and comprises a spring sheet **21** which is curved downwardly and forwardly, as shown in Fig. 3. The rear portion of the plate **21** may terminate reversely in a flat portion **22** having means such as openings **23** through which fasteners such as bolts **24** may extend, as shown in Figs. 3 and 5. The openings **23** are preferably elongated slots, as indicated in Fig. 3. The bolts **24** are threadably received in tapped openings **25** formed through the supporting and fastening element **15**, as shown in Figs. 4 and 5. Larger openings **26** may be formed through the body portion **21** of the skin-contacting plate **20** so as to be in alignment with the bolts **24**, as shown in Figs. 3, 4 and 5. The entire spring plate **20** may be adjustably moved forwardly and rearwardly with the bolts **24** in loosened condition.

The resilient skin-contacting plate **20** terminates forwardly in a hair-guiding and lifting member **27** which is preferably in the form of a comb element removably secured to a forward position on the resilient plate **20**, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3. The curved body portion **21** of the resilient blade **20** may terminate in a gripping edge **28** having curved bifurcated legs **29** and **30**, as shown in Fig. 4. The gripping edge **28** is adapted to receive the enlarged back portion **31** of comb **27**, as shown in Fig. 3. When comb **27** is in position, the teeth will extend forwardly and below the oscillable cutting teeth of the clipper **10**, as shown in Fig. 3. The device is adapted to hold several types and sizes of combs **27** depending upon the requirements of the clipper during use.

It will be noted that the curved spring blade **21** of the skin-contacting member **20**, together with the comb element **27**, are so angulated with respect to the oscillable teeth **13** and **14** of clipper **10** that the forewardmost tip edge **32** of the comb teeth will lie forwardly and slightly below the clipper teeth when the attachment is in relaxed condition.

In the use and operation of our attachment, a suitable comb or hair-guiding and lifting member **27** is slidably secured to the gripping or clamping edge **28**. The supporting and fastening element **15** is then attached to the rear margin **19** of the heel plate **11**, as shown in Fig. 2. A screwdriver may be employed to loosen the bolts **24** so that the plate **20** and comb **27** may be properly positioned in a forwardly and rearwardly direction with respect to the heel plate **11** and teeth **13** and **14**. The openings **26**, of course, provide an accessway for the screwdriver in effecting the adjustment. The clipper is then energized so that teeth **13** and **14** will move relatively and provide shearing action to cut the hair. Where it is desired to clip close to the skin as at the lower neck portion, pressure is exerted upon the clipper so that the teeth **13** of plate **11** are depressed in contact with the comb teeth **32**. In so depressing the clipper teeth, the conformation of the plate **21** will be altered but little, and a curved contacting surface convex at the downward surface will be maintained. A smooth and accurate taper may be effected by raising the entire clipper **10** and, at the same time, rocking the clipper downwardly simultaneously with the upward movement thereof. The shift of pressure rearwardly on spring plate **21** will release the force thereon and permit the forwardly directed comb teeth **32** to become spaced from the clipper teeth **13** and **14**. As the movement of the clipper **10** progresses upwardly, the entire clipper may be brought out of contact with the skin and the tapering of the cut hair ends will be continued by virtue of the holding and guiding effect of the comb element **27**.

It may thus be seen that we have devised a hair clipper

which will simultaneously perform a combing and clipping operation, yet will automatically provide for the proper spacing and positioning of the comb portion when naturally utilizing the clipper **10** in a one-handed operation. The net effect is to produce a tapered hair cut of professional quality with the use of a single instrumentality in a simple and easily learned manner.

It will, of course, be understood that various changes may be made in the form, details, arrangement and proportions of the parts without departing from the scope of our invention.

What we claim is:

In a hair clipping device the combination with a conventional hair clipper having a heel plate terminating forwardly in oscillable cutting teeth, of a removable clamping member transversely mounted upon the said heel adjacent the rear edge thereof, a spring plate resiliently mounted to the clamping member and adjustable forwardly and rearwardly with respect to the heel plate and oscillable cutting teeth, said spring plate underlying in spaced clearance the surface of said heel plate, and a comb removably secured at a forward position on said spring plate and having its teeth extending forwardly in free spaced clearance with said oscillable cutting teeth.

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